

File No. 9263 Continued.

~~CORRESPONDENCE.~~

to be in a position to act intelligently regarding the material on which to rest our foundations, a conference was held at my office at which were present yourself, Mr. Stearns of Boston (who, as you know, is an expert of national reputation on difficult foundation work), several of my Assistant Engineers, your Mr. Ford and myself. At this conference the results of these investigations were laid before you and I submitted to you my plans showing how I expected to carry the foundations down to such points as would insure a uniform bearing throughout the building on material that both Mr. Stearns and myself considered entirely satisfactory for the purpose. At the close of this conference, at my request, you stated you would take the matter under consideration and let me know your opinion.

In compliance with this request, I am in receipt of your letter of the 8th, in which you state that you disagree with the conclusions reached by Mr. Stearns and myself. I enclose herewith a copy of a letter written by Mr. Stearns confirming his verbal statements at the conference, in which you will note he states emphatically that in his opinion the driving of piles is not the method best adapted to meet the conditions at the Pumping Station, and, also, that he considers that in using concrete for the foundations, the sloping foundations will be more satisfactory.

I notice in your letter of the 8th you state: "I cannot sanction the resting of the proposed building nor foundations for machinery on such conditions as exist without some means of supporting the weight other than the various soft strata disclosed from the recent borings." In several previous letters you have stated that you considered piles were necessary. Your last communication is indefinite. I would therefore ask, - let: Do you mean that you require piles to be driven?

I quote as follows from a report of my engineer regarding a conversation he had with your inspector, Mr. Ford, who has been representing you on the work since the start:

"About 3.30 p.m. yesterday (December 10th) Mr. Ford, Inspector Hines and myself were in the pumping station office of the Commission. In discussing the foundations of the pumping station Mr. Ford said that in his opinion the character of the soil, as indicated by the borings, in the northern part of the site, was satisfactory for constructing the foundations substantially as shown on the contract drawings, and possibly at a higher elevation; that if piles were used in the southwest corner and as far north and east therefrom as the driving of the piles may develop soft material, and the rest of the foundation built on firm material, he thought the building would be secure."